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poured out over the fate of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria. She was beautiful, she quarrelled with her husband, she rode hard to hounds; but these facts do not really entitle her to more sympathy than President McKinley or King Humbert.

SYDNEY WATERLOW.

London, England.

SEEMS SO! A WORKING-CLASS VIEW OF POLITICS. By Stephen Reynolds and Bob and Tom Woolley. London: Macmillan & Co., 1911. Pp. xxvii, 321.

This book aims at giving the upper classes a deeper understanding of the mental attitudes of the lower classes; it urges that the legislation carried by the rich should be more disinterested and more in accordance with lower-class wishes. But the exposition is not quite happy.

The last chapter makes some interesting points about working-class psychology. Earlier in the book the views of two Devonshire fishermen are set forth in direct speech. Most of these views being rather slashing, it is a pity that Mr. Reynolds should endorse them.

The second part looks more like his own work, untrammelled by collaboration with his fishermen friends. It contains sweeping generalizations, of which many seem mistaken. Mistaken, too, is the implication throughout that these social and political views are those of a majority not only of the working-classes, but of the entire population. Take his summary of working-class education: 'The biggest fraud ever forced upon us'; or his observation on women's suffrage: 'People whose weekly income barely feeds and houses them cannot afford to experiment in changes.' This is not the attitude of the industrial Midlands and York. Much of the criticism which the three collaborators make on recent legislation, achieved or meditated, amounts to this,—a cruel restriction of the liberties of the poor by the rich for their own ends. Mr. Reynolds betrays a deep distrust of education, to which, perhaps, there is no better reply than a certain utterance of Dr. Johnson's. "I am always afraid of determining on the side of envy and cruelty. The privileges of education may sometimes be improperly bestowed, but I shall always fear to withhold them, lest I should be yielding to the suggestions of pride, while I persuade myself that I am follow-

ing the maxims of policy." But Mr. Reynolds's instincts are generous, and he has not been content to be the outside observer. Everyone must admire the spirit which led him to share the rough life of a couple of Dartmouth fishermen, not for a few days only, but for weeks. There is room for more of such books; and, indeed, Mr. Reynolds has already written another and a better one.

OSCAR ECKHARD.

Manchester, England.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY. By Robert M. Yerkes. London: C. Bell & Sons, Ltd.; New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911. Pp. 427.

Mr. Yerkes has ably accomplished the promise of his preface to provide an outline of the science of psychology, but we fail to agree with him about the function that he would have his book fulfil. We submit that a skeleton is not an appropriate introduction to this subject, because we believe that the supreme error to be avoided in such a work is that of sketchiness. Psychology is studied to little purpose unless it is concerned with real living experience from the outset. At this stage a general and technical treatment of the subject, with its systematic pigeon-holing of doctrines, its characteristic distribution of dark and light type, its inevitable skimming over the surface of great questions, is of no avail. The chief difficulty in the study of psychology lies in the tendency to substitute technical description for direct and living psychical experience, and if we are to wage war effectively upon this evil, we must start from direct experience carefully and even minutely observed. For this reason there is indeed a sense in which the text-book for the beginner must be more detailed than that for the more advanced student, and therefore, we recommend the use of Mr. Yerkes's book after, instead of before, the manual. It would thereby have a place different from the one he planned; for when the manual has taught the student to live and be interested in psychological problems, then the present outline may effectively reduce his facts to order and enable him to discriminate the wood from the trees.

The book is divided into six sections which deal consecutively with: The Nature, Aims, and Methods of Psychology; Descrip-